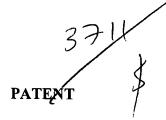
STX-015

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N THE WITTED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

GAIT ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/609,480

Filed: July 1, 2003

For: LA

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PROTRUSIONS

Art Unit: 3711

Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
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Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Applicants wish to make of record in the above-identified application the document or documents referenced on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each reference is enclosed herewith.

The undersigned believes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper. However, should a first action on the merits have been issued on the same day or before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please accept this Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 17(p) fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1390, under Order No. STX-015 and proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

12/12/2003 SSESHE1 00000071 501390 10609480 01 FC:1806 180.00 DA Serial No.: 10/609,480 Attorney's Docket No.: STX-015

Art Unit: 3711

Page 2

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that each reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that any referenced document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that one or more of the referenced documents constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the reference or references.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentablity of the disclosed invention over any referenced document, should it be applied against the claims of the present application.

SHAW PITTMAN LLP 1650 Tysons Boulevard McLean, VA 22102

Tel: 703/770-7687

Date: December 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

GAIT ET AL.

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Customer No. 28970



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known		
INIE	COMATION DIS	201	OGLIBE	Application Number	10/609,480	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	7/1/03	
ST	ATEMENT BY A	\PPI	LICANT	First Named Inventor	Gait et al.	
				Art Unit	3711	
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Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	STX-015	

		U.	S. PATENT DO	CUMENTS	
Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,
Initials	No. ¹	Number- Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-3,507,495	4/21/70	Tucker et al.	
		US-4,034,984	7/12/77	Crawford et al.	DE0-
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		US-			DEC 1 6 200
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	۲۴
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^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.